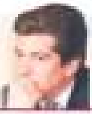


World / A9

Princess Diana had fling with JFK Jr., book claims



News / A2

Cruz 'loses' witness; Villar may lose post

Across / A13

NPA rebels raid North Cotabato police station

Metro / A15

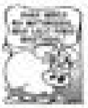
Former Masbate salon shot dead in Caloocan

Sports / A19

Closing birdie hands Birdie US Open plum



Lawyer files impeachment rap, but no takers in House



By Philip C. Tubeza

PHILIPPINE DAILY
INQUIRER
BALANCED NEWS, FEARLESS VIEWS

Experts say impeachment move remains a long shot

By Norman Bordadora

GMA: HELLO... IT'S ME

She apologizes for 'lapse in judgment,' denies rigging polls

By Christine O. Avendaño

IN AN UNPRECEDENTED act of public contrition, President Macapagal-Arroyo last night admitted it was she who was talking in wiretapped phone conversations about an alleged conspiracy to tamper with the results of the 2004 elections.

"I'm sorry ... I ask you to forgive me," Ms Arroyo said in a televised address to the nation.



A CONTRITE look on her face was what Filipinos saw on television last night when President Macapagal-Arroyo told the nation that hers was the voice on the controversial tape.

CONTROVERSIAL PORTIONS OF GMA-GARCI TAPE

Right move, say GMA allies; half-truths, say foes



STUDENTS wait outside the Manila Cathedral for their turn to view the remains of the late Jaime Cardinal Sin. The influential Catholic Church leader will be buried today.

People still seek out Sin for hope, even after death

By Christian V. Esguerra

Second FRONTPAGE

Cruz 'loses' witness; Villar may lose post

On the spot

Judge blocks DOJ investigation of Ong



TAYO AWARDS

Romulo says 'old friends' back GMA

PCIJ blog hacked

Loren set on pursuing case, to plunk down P5M

Six pilot provinces

Hello Garci tapes



FOR SMOOTHER TAKEOFFS AND LANDINGS

What 'solved' means to PNP

Illegal drugs trade worth ₱300B–PDEA

High estimate

Local contacts

More abusers turning to pot

13 Pinoys nabbed in US for selling fake papers

Stop delaying trial, Erap lawyers asked

Inquirer issue in time capsule to be buried with Sin today

By Christian V. Esguerra

Ardent coverage



FR. RUFINO Sescon, secretary of the late Jaime Cardinal Sin, inspects the crypt beneath the Manila Cathedral where the Church leader will be entombed.

People still seek out Sin for hope…

Too political, too outspoken

20,000 mourners

Expect heavy traffic

NDF condoles

Rolls says goodbye

Right move…

Correction



The Daily Gospel

Tuesday, June 28, 2005

13th Week in Ordinary Time

Experts say impeachment move a long shot

Legal issues

Legal advice

Independent probe

Comelec reputation

People power – boon or bane for RP democracy

'Filipinos are too willing to resort to extra-legal means in all aspects of political-economic life'



THOUSANDS of demonstrators urge President Macapagal-Arroyo to step down in Friday's rally in Quezon City.

Weak system

Parliamentary setup

GMA: Hello... it's me

IN THE KNOW

Lapse in judgment—shades of Clinton

Crisis advisers

Appeal to the nation

The Queen's man

Full text of GMA message

Controversial portions of GMA-Garci tape

Lawyer files impeachment rap, but no takers in House

Betrayal of public trust

Unfair

More meat

Oil prices worry GMA, TUCP

The WORLD

Rebel suicide bombers kill 33 in Iraq

Iran's new leader vows moderation, more nuke talks

Pakistani rape victim takes case to Supreme Court





Princess Diana had fling with JFK Jr., book claims

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER
OPINION



Worried about Noli

EDITORIAL

ONE thing that has made some people hesitate to ask that President Macapagal-Arroyo step down is the Noli de Castro factor. Last Thursday, a bishop and an official of a party-list group said no one wanted De Castro, a former radio-TV announcer, to succeed Ms Arroyo.

Manuel Louie, Bayan Muna national vice chair, said his group had suggested that "we move away from the limitations of the Constitution in assuming a president because we know Noli de Castro is simply not prepared to assume the task." A similar sentiment was expressed by retired Bishop Julio Labayen at a forum in UP Baguio.

We are not saying at this point that Ms Arroyo should be impeached, be made to step down peacefully or be ousted by another Edsa-type uprising. The fate of the President, who is reeling from the jueteng and tapes scandals, will have to be decided by herself, the politicians and the leaders of civil society. But the current political turmoil should make voters think again about the importance of electing a vice president who can step in and perform the functions of the president at a moment's notice.

The concept of the vice presidency, from the time of the Commonwealth up to the present, has been that of a "spare tire." Which requires that it be on hand at all times, ready to function the moment there is a blowout. This means that the spare tire has to be always in good running condition, for if it is defective, then it will not serve its purpose.

A review of the list of the country's vice presidents since President Manuel L. Quezon's time will show that most of them were qualified and prepared to assume the presidency. Quezon died of tuberculosis in 1944, and Vice President Sergio Osmeña succeeded him. President Manuel Roxas died from a heart attack in 1948, and Vice President Elpidio Quirino succeeded him. President Ramon Magsaysay died in a plane crash in 1957, and Vice President Carlos P. Garcia assumed the presidency.

President Diosdado Macapagal, who served out his term, had former Sen. Emmanuel Pelaez for his vice president. Ferdinand E. Marcos, who was elected president in 1965 and reelected in 1969, had Sen. Fernando Lopez as vice president. Corazon Aquino won the 1986 snap presidential election but was cheated by Marcos. She was later installed president by the Edsa I people power uprising. Her vice president was former Sen. Salvador H. Laurel.

President Fidel V. Ramos had former Sen. Joseph Estrada as vice president. In 1998 Estrada was elected president and former Sen. Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo, vice president. Like Aquino before her, Ms Arroyo was catapulted to the presidency by a people power uprising. As early as that time, some people already expressed a dislike for her. Some protesters said: "Resign All." But the call for both Mr. Estrada and Ms Arroyo to resign did not catch fire, for the urgent objective then was to immediately remove a President who was perceived to be corrupt and incompetent.

Now there are calls for the ouster of President Arroyo, but some quarters are having second thoughts because they are not sure if the Vice President is qualified to take over the reins of government. Some are again pushing for the "Resign all" formula.

Unlike in previous years when seasoned and experienced senators and congressmen such as Osmeña, Quirino, Garcia, Macapagal, Pelaez, Lopez and Laurel were elected vice president, the past three elections saw candidates of disputable professional or moral qualities being chosen to be the "spare tire" of the president. Lately, popularity, name recall and "winnability" have been the most important factors in nominating and electing vice presidents. That the Vice President is a "spare tire," ready to take over the presidency any time the president dies, falls seriously ill, is unable to discharge the functions of his office, resigns or is removed through impeachment or any other cause, means that he or she should have similar qualifications and experience as the president. There is no time for him or her to go through an "internship" or "practicum" while the affairs of state wait for immediate action and decision.

When President Ramos underwent an operation on the carotid in 1996, people were appalled at the thought that Estrada might succeed him. Now some people are entertaining a similar fear. What if Arroyo resigns or is removed by whatever means? The prospect of a De Castro presidency is giving some people pause and making them weigh their options very carefully.

Protracted crisis

VIEWPOINT

Juan L. Mercado

In response, non-Opec oil, especially from the North Sea fields of England and Norway, was tapped. "They saved the West's ass for about two decades," Kunstler says. "Since 1999, those fields have entered depletion."

"Worldwide discovery of new oil, meanwhile, steadily declined." Soon, foreign producers, chiefly Opec, were setting the price again.

"The world never faced a problem like this," the US Energy Department noted in a March report. "Without massive mitigation more than a decade before the fact, the problem will be pervasive and will not be temporary."

The "peak" represents the halfway point of the world's all-time total endowment. That's when half the world's oil will be left. And that will mean rise.

But there's a big catch. That half is much more difficult to extract. It's costlier to pump and of poorer quality. The oil fields are located in strife-torn areas. "A substantial amount will never be recovered."

A global oil production peak is complicated by burgeoning demand from China and India, which compounds pressures. The US has attempted desperately to stabilize the Middle East—which contains two-thirds of the world's remaining oil supplies—"by, in effect, opening a big police station in Iraq." But what if China, which became the world's second-greatest consumer of oil in 2004, opened a similar "police station" in oil-producing former Soviet republics in Central Asia?

The debate continues, except probably in a Philippines obsessed with politics. Will the

[illegible] ...SORRY, but this is no "are-those-too-little-ahead?" solution. It's not about jueteng or wiretapped tapes. Rather, it deals with the story... [illegible]

It's about $60 a barrel oil.

"Crude rose to $60.01 before settling down at $59.50," Agence France Presse reported over the weekend. That price barrel cost less than $3 before the oil crisis of the 1970s.

That $60-barrel price already saps budgets, in inflated jeepney fares or egregiously swollen medicine and food. But many are not affected by the "Smiley-Cookie syndrome" ... [illegible]

Thus, some people think a sunshine transition from fossil fuels to "alternative renewables" is around the corner. Others assume the problem will go away.

Well, it won't, James Howard Kunstler answers in "The Long Emergency." The cheap fossil-fuel era is over. And that will reshape our lives and world in ways we haven't grasped yet.

Reliable supplies of cheap oil and natural gas underpin much of modern life, from travel and suburbs to chemicals and air-conditioning for malls. But the taps are tightening.

A permanent energy crisis could interact with disruptions of climate change, epidemic diseases and population overshoot, Kunstler warns. "We're in for a rough ride through uncharted territory."

His analysis is anchored in the "global oil production peak," the point when world production inexorably declines. That's after the world pumps most oil it will produce in a given year.

The United States passed its oil peak of 11 million barrels daily in 1970. Since then, it imports about two-thirds of the oil it burns, as production dropped steadily. (The Philippines depends on imports.)

peak occur, as some say, in 2005? They point to Shell Oil's erroneous estimate of its reserves. Saudi Arabia can't boost up production despite promises to do so. Nigeria and Venezuela are volatile. "2005 is apt to be the year of all-time global peak production," Kunstler thinks.

Maybe so. The consequences from a "Long Emergency" are emerging. The automobile would be a diminished presence. Cigarette airports, like JFK, Frankfurt, Heathrow, Narita, Changi, may shrink or unravel into Bantu. Thousands of oil-based "common" products, from plastic to medicine, will become scarce and costlier. Social and commercial patterns will be radically reordered. Long-distance markets will be priced out. Industrial agriculture may falter due to a scarcity of oil- and gas-based inputs. More food will be grown closer to where people live on smaller scale.

Will the 21st century center on agriculture, not on high-tech information? "This is no doubt a startling, radical idea. And it raises extremely difficult questions about reallocation of land and other resources."

What would like to keep the lights on. For them, what are the options?

Alternative and renewable fuels range from hydrogen, biomass, coal, solar to wind, as the new Bacoo wind farm signals. Or you go nuclear as in the cases of Three Mile Island and Chernobyl.

Problems of technology arise. Today's huge stock and car fleets won't be replaced by vehicles run on fuel cells soon. Solar-electric systems and wind turbines face problems of scale. Coal is "dirty." The Nazis made synthetic oil from coal using vast armies of slave labor. And uranium for nuclear plants is a limited resource.

"Survivors of the Long Emergency will have to cultivate a religion of hope—that is, a deep and comprehensive belief that humanity is worth carrying on," Kunstler writes.

But is our country, bogged down as it is in jueteng and wiretaps, drifting in these terms?

Legal and moral

THERE'S THE RUB

Conrado de Quiros

[illegible] Comelec says snap elections can happen only if Noli de Castro resigns along with GMA. Raul Roco and Aquilino Pimentel suggest the same thing but make it voluntary on the part of the Vice President. De Castro, Roco said, is merely the spare tire of a car that GMA has lost control of and is driving straight into the cliffs. He should resign pro "to put to [illegible] the country," Roco said, invoking [illegible].

Well, that will take some humongous coaxing. I've heard the same thought expressed by some lawyer friends of mine. If we're to have snap elections, they say, De Castro should resign as well because his votes are tainted as well. Indeed, our law De Castro all the others nationally elected officials. All of which presents a thorny Gordian knot, which cannot be easily sliced by a sword.

But I personally can't see why snap elections should be possible only if De Castro resigns as well. It misses the point. The point is that GMA rigged the elections with the collusion of one of the top officials of the Comelec. Or to go by insider talk in the Comelec, the top official of the electoral body, [illegible] ... But there will be any doubt about the authenticity of the tape or the identity of the parties in the conversation? I did my best to be infinite readers give GMA the exceptionally diminutive voice. The only way Ms Arroyo can sound like her is for him to use Dolfo Ramos' voice box.

But the point is that GMA rigged the elections and therefore whether she actually won or not, she has invalidated her win. She has voided her claim to the presidency. That is what we are asking her to resign for, to be impeached. The others did not cheat in the elections, or at least we do not have proof they did. We can only presume good faith on their part. If they benefited from GMA's cheating, that is not their fault. Why should they be punished for it?

No, we can have snap elections only for

president. That has the added virtue of driving home the point that no candidate is above the law, not even a president.

All this presumes, of course, that GMA will go quietly into the night and not rage against the dying of the light. Resignation is not of the question, though I still believe in calling for it for its moment, if not practical, value. It may fail on deaf ears among the occupants of the Palace by the Pasig but it won't [illegible] among the inhabitants of the Heart of the Ocean. It makes a point about being morally. But there are more practical ways to get GMA to step down.

Impeachment is one of them. Pimentel, of course, scoffs that Malacañang is trying to bail the opposition into taking the impeachment route because it has the numbers in Congress and can always win it. Maybe so, but it's still worth trying. Ebb—and Jose de Venecia—may have congressmen in their pockets but those congressmen are not entirely invulnerable to public sentiment. Which could matter in elections. GMA's level of unpopularity, revealed dramatically by the day. The people may just be watching from the outside to one day see this one knocking doors and cries they hear lies by now. [illegible] ... with GMA. No one watches GMA anymore.

But the surest and most potent source of public pressure is the one suggested by Sara Soriano, which is a no-brainer. Gabriel Claudio, the presidential adviser on political affairs, is aghast at the suggestion. "I don't see how you can draw a comparison between the jueteng issue and the President holding her office," he said. And he added: "Politics is one

thing, economic sabotage and blackmail are another."

He should have told that to Rolando Ginoo, one of Bangkal P's convenors, who said quite openly shortly before Erap was ousted: "We are staging calibrated workers' actions leading to a general strike and the first call is for workers to participate in the rallies. We are also calling for a transport strike outside Metro Manila." We talked about the boycotts and boycott of the two banks. Especially PCI could not be included because there was the concern that Social Security System (Equitable) also fund for employees in the private sector's placed on money there." To this day, Libogo has not been charged with economic sabotage and blackmail.

When Libogo said that, Erap was charged only with stealing jueteng money; he wasn't charged with stealing people's votes. The second was something he could never be charged with. GMA is charged with both, the second above all. At the time Libogo said that, Erap's impeachment trial wasn't over, he hadn't been found guilty, the Senate turned round and just refused to open the second envelope. Today, a tape of GMA's conversation with Garcillano is going the rounds of the country, making her, in the way Julie goes, the most popular ventriloquist of all time, her CD having broken records in sales and piracy.

I've asked before why we should pay taxes when GMA had just used our taxes to campaign (the Pagcor and PCSO ads are touched proof of it), when she cannot even protect journalists from being murdered (which shows our taxes do no service in terms of basic services), when she has turned the country into the second most corrupt country in Asia (which places more unduly private pockets rather than public ones). That was well before Archbishop Oscar Cruz brought witnesses to show her husband and son were the godfathers of jueteng and Samuel Ong brought out The Tape to show she was the godmother of cheating.

That isn't legal and moral ground for a tax boycott?

Investing in the youth's future

POLITICAL TIDBITS



Blame Nora

YOUNG BLOOD

Escape from the 'heat'

AT LARGE



Blame Sharon

Manila 1859 (2)

SENSE AND SENSIBILITY



NOTICE TO YOUNGBLOOD CONTRIBUTORS

THEY SAID

Sin's cross

No vacuum

Common sense

Last stab at democracy

Electricity cheaper if Napocor-sourced



COMMUTERS walk past the "Valentina" poster near Philcoa in Quezon City

Valentina posters not illegal

The meaning of silence

A call for the truth

Do you think that President Gloria Arroyo still has the credibility to lead our nation? Why or why not?



What do you think should President Gloria Arroyo do in the wake of the Jueteng and audio tape recording scandals?

Across the NATION



Tarongoy driven to tears as he comes home to Davao

NPAs raid N. Cotabato cop station, seize guns



LP bets in ARMM seek revamp of Comelec staff

Tragedy hounds Myrna Diones as brother kills husband

CSC exec seriously wounded in ambush

PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT

In view of the current economic situation, the Pharmaceutical and Healthcare Association of the Philippines (PHAP) wishes to announce that it is supporting the appeal of the Department of Trade and Industry for a moratorium on price adjustments. PHAP will exert best efforts to maintain prices of essential medicines for as long as possible.

Belgium to stop sending direct aid to RP

PAGADIAN CITY—Belgium would suspend its direct aid to the Philippines, preferring instead to channel development assistance through non-government organizations and multilateral agencies.

Belgian ambassador to the Philippines Christian Tanghe said his country would provide direct aid only until August 2007, when the term of the Belgian Integrated Agrarian Reform Support Program (BIARSP) ends.

BIARSP is one of the largest direct aid package in the Belgian government's development assistance portfolio to the Philippines.

Started in 1997, with the Department of Land Reform (DLR) as lead implementing agency, BIARSP cost the Belgian government about P936 million.

It seeks to make agrarian reform work by going beyond the "land-to-the-tiller" concept and providing new landowners with support services for agricultural productivity as well as social services for their communities like basic education, potable water, sanitation and primary health care.

Tanghe, during the sidelines of his two-day visit here last week to projects in the Zamboanga Peninsula that are supported by Belgian aid, said despite the scheduled end to direct aid, the Philippines would remain "an important recipient" of Belgian development assistance.

After 2007, aid funds would flow through non-government organizations, multilateral agencies such as the European Union development organizations and the United Nations Development Program, he said.

Apart from BIARSP, Belgium is also actively involved in a United Nations-initiated multilateral development program, which aims to restore the economic foundations for peace in Central Mindanao after the national government and the Moro National Liberation Front (MNLF) signed a peace deal in 1996. *Ryan Rosauro, PDI Mindanao Bureau*

Roundup

Palay festival



[illegible]

Prosecutor shot dead

[illegible]

Rural bank robbed



[illegible]

Man kills son

[illegible]

Philhealth cards for poor



[illegible]

METRO

Ex-Masbate solon shot dead in Caloocan



Roces drainage unable to prevent floods

Case filed against unidentified bar slay suspect

New bicycle lane opens in Marikina

Hurray ! BIR has not spared Iggy Arroyo

ON TARGET



'Pupil' charged in mentor's death

Farmers cry foul over demolition of shanties outside DLR

ENTERTAINMENT



Walkout!

Press photographers were shooed away during the 53rd Famas Awards night

INQUIRER TV GUIDE

TV SCHEDULES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT PRIOR NOTICE.

SPORTS



Cubs, Squires rout rivals

Asi stays in freezer

Tough Vegas stint awaits RP cagers

Disunity shakes PBFI

Mantawi cagers topple Crusaders

[illegible]

UST, La Salle forge 3rd title showdown

By Marc Anthony Reyes

FOR THE third straight conference, the spiking gals of La Salle and Santo Tomas will vie for the championship in the country's premier volleyball league.

[illegible]



[illegible]

Chamat stuns Reyes; Manalo prevails

[illegible]

Miñozas head Amateur Tour cast

[illegible]



[illegible]

Sportswatch

Bumgarner to compete, train in Italy



BUMGARNER

[illegible]

Go-For-Gold: Mandaluyong vs Air Force

[illegible]

Xavier, Archers cruise to badminton semis

[illegible]

Futsal, soccer at Ayala Westgrove Heights

[illegible]

Antonio is NCA Cocker of the Year

[illegible]

Pasig One-Cock Ulutan lures big field

[illegible]



[illegible]

When referees spoil the party

SPECTATOR



Al S. Mendoza

[illegible]

Harrington eagles 18th, cops crown

Closing birdie hands Birdie US Open plum



BIRDIE Kim hoists US Women's Open trophy. AP

Federer, Davenport remain in title hunt

With her court date moved again, Nora's 'ordinary' life goes on

By Janet Susan R. Nepales, LA Correspondent
and Ryan R. Nelmes, Contributor

LOS ANGELES—The preliminary hearing of Nora Aunor's drug possession case has been moved again, this time to July 25, according to the Filipino singer-actress' defense lawyer.



'Guilty' of liking the US as her second home

For just one day —Nicole

More stars fight back

[illegible]

[illegible]

VIEWFINDER



Nestor U. Torre

20th anniversary show

[illegible]

Quick on the Draw

[illegible]

'La Femme Nikita'

[illegible]

'The Love Album'

[illegible]

'Maalikaya'

[illegible]

What celebrities can live without

DOLLYWOOD



Dolly Anne Carvajal

Famas 2005 winners



PIOLO Pascual, Best Actor and Claudine Barretto, Best Actress

Walkout!

Tan seen to match highest bid for PNB


LUCIO TAN

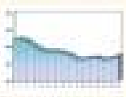
BAD NEWS FOR PESO

Economic gains dwarfed by political pains

Peso woes

WHAT'S INSIDE

CURRENCIES



STOCK MARKET

Shares close 0.84% higher

PSE COMPOSITE INDEX



END-JUNE

Bayantel to settle ₱158M in debts

Mark Securities plans seat reopening

DISCLOSURES

Market rally as few people rally

MR. BEARBULL

Ron Nathan

Gov't rejects bids for 1-year T-bills

By Michelle V. Remo

Republic of the Philippines
Department of Finance
BUREAU OF CUSTOMS

NOTICE OF SALE

Gov't agencies help food firms eat into US mart



Our meddlesome bishops

QUESTIONS OF POLICIES

Honesto C. General

Forex gains boost MIAA Q1 profit

Economic gains dwarfed ...

Down but not out

BUSINESS

Bataan firm confirms sale of 83% stake to Tybalt Ltd.

118% OF PHILIPPINE GDP

'04 public sector debt hit ₱5.3T

Neighborly take on waste management



CORPORATE CITIZEN

SSS to sell EPCIB stake ... if price is right

Know your vitamins

Inside Out

Cory Quirino



Natural

Special needs

Affirmation:

Most dangerous fat

Well and Good

Waist size

Stress

Better than diet

First fat lost

Lipo doesn't work

EXERCISE OF THE WEEK

Plank on stability ball



LIFESTYLE

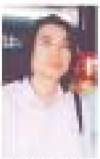








Iloilo gets 'boxed' in





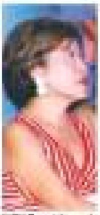

WITHOUT BATTING AN EYELASH

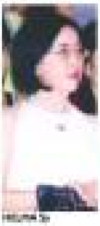


Maurice Arcache

Fashionable brides










Parapsychology now a college subject

INNER AWARENESS



Jaime T. Licauco

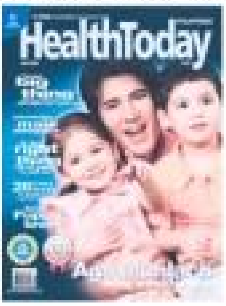
Given the interest and controversy generated by New Age topics, it has to be studied in depth

Improper feeding causes 16,000 deaths annually



Successive pregnancies risky for women

Mag's latest issue is all about men



Most dangerous fat